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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of: Denton et al.

Serial No.: 10/707,979

Filed: January 29, 2004

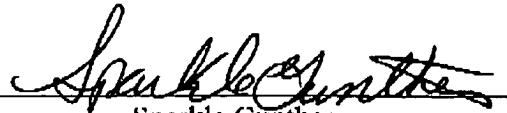
Group Art Unit: 2125

Examiner: Olsen, Jeffrey

For: A METHOD FOR CONSIDERING
HIERARCHICAL PREEMPTIVE
DEMAND PRIORITIES IN A SUPPLY CHAIN OPTIMIZATION MODEL.

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Sparkle Gunther

Commissioner of Patents
PO BOX 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as
follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the specification in the application as follows: